

This Sunday in Worship

August 10, 2025
9:30 am Worship



Suella Gerber

11:30 CMC en Español



David Maldonado

[Watch e-worship](#)

[Online Giving](#)

Looking Ahead

Monday, August 11

6:00 pm - Stephen Ministries

Tuesday, August 12

9:00 am - Jubilee Ministry

2:00 pm - Stephen Ministries

Wednesday, August 13

5:00 pm - Prayer Choir

7:00 pm - Choir Rehearsal

Thursday, August 14

10:00 am - Volunteer Day

Saturday, August 16

9:00 am - Don Clemens Visitation

11:00 am - Don Clemens Memorial

Sunday, August 17

9:20 am - Gathering Songs

9:30 am - Worship service

After Worship - Fellowship Time

10:45 am - Adult Sunday School

11:30 am - CMC en Español

Anabaptist Learning Month 2025

Welcome to our 8th annual Anabaptist Learning Month! While we are Anabaptist Christians for 12 months of the year, we have a practice of paying special attention to our Anabaptist Christian identity in the month of August. Here's what you can look forward to and put on your calendars!

August 10-31 Sunday School

- **Anabaptist Community Bible-style Bible Study in the Library:** The Discipling Commission invites anyone interested in engaging in this unique form of communal Bible study to come to the library on any of these three Sundays. Whoever shows up will study one of that Sunday's scriptures together. We would love to have a convener for this - you don't have to lead, just show up and call everyone together! Contact chairperson Lisa Caskey (lkycaskey@gmail.com) if you're willing to convene.
- **Anabaptist at 500 themes in Sunday School:** The Discipling Commission invites adult Sunday school classes to engage in the broader theme in already-established Sunday school groups. Leonard Gross edited a book, [The Anabaptist Lodestar](#), from which classes can find inspiration.
- **August 10 Children's Sunday School Blessing:** Sunday school may have been taboo in Mennonite churches 60 years ago, but it's an established way that we take discipleship seriously now! We will gather with children, youth and their Sunday school teachers at 11:20 on Sunday, August 10 to pray a blessing for them as they begin a new year of learning and growing together.

August 10-31 Worship Services

This year, we take our focus from the worship resources put out by MennoMedia in commemoration of 500 years of Anabaptism. If you'd like to look at the resource we're using for inspiration, follow [this link](#). The worship resource begins on page 21.

Note from the Music Director: This week we will establish a new worship pattern for the rest of Anabaptist Learning Month. We are using materials from the [Anabaptism at 500 Tool Kit](#) compiled by John Roth and Mollee Mollua, with the theme of "Services of Renewal." One pattern I want us to try is to sing the first and fourth verses of "O Gott Vater" (VT 45), in English, as a prayer of thanksgiving after our offering each week. We sang this once in January, but I would love for us to feel more comfortable with it! This is a very traditional Anabaptist text, from the Ausbund, which is still sung as the "Loblied" as the second song in every Amish worship service. The Amish tune (or [singing practices](#), rather) evolved over the years from the [tune used in Voices Together](#), the same traditional Lutheran chorale tune indicated in the Ausbund (1583).



September 26-27, 2025

Come join us at **East Goshen Church on Aug 23 from 10-2** for our final crafting day before the Relief Sale. Everything will be supplied and no skills needed. Please rsvp to crafting.mMrs@gmail.com by Aug 20. Bring a sack lunch.

Bless others and the work of MCC with your donation to the 2025 Quilt Auction at the Relief Sale. Comforters and quilts of all sizes, quilted wall-hangings, plus knitted or crocheted afghans can all be donated. Please see the website for how to register your item at [Quilt Auction — Michiana Mennonite Relief Sale](#). Registration ends August 25. For more information contact Gail Shetler, 574-333-7142.

Do you enjoy walking/running? Consider registering for the 2025 Run for Relief which will take place on Saturday, September 27 at 8:00 am. It's a great way to start your day at the Relief Sale. To register, go to the relief sale website at **Run for Relief — Michiana Mennonite Relief Sale** and download the registration form or sign up on-line at <https://runsignup.com/Race/IN/Goshen/MCCRunforRelief> Hope to see you there! Email or text/call Roger Nafziger at rogeran@goshen.edu or (574) 536-6248 if you have any questions.

The Fall Décor and Dried Flower booth at the Relief Sale will have more space and a great need for more fall decorations. We would like your assistance in growing and/or drying items for sale in the booth. Dried flowers and grasses along with traditional fall decorations such as gourds and corn are greatly appreciated. We cannot be successful without your generous help! For more information, contact Ruth Andrews at 765-432-7517.

The Relief Sale will be held Sept. 26-27 at the Elkhart County Fairgrounds. Keep collecting your coins for MyCoins Count and follow the Relief Sale on social media for the latest updates.



MCC's School Kit Challenge is back! The notebooks and pencils that devoted supporters like you lovingly pack into MCC school kits help kids write their own success stories, and rulers provide hope beyond measure. School kits provide these and other essential supplies that families navigating war, displacement or financial struggles would not be able to buy otherwise. Join the 2025 School Kit Challenge and help MCC provide 25,000 school kits for 25,000 kids this summer. To learn more about this challenge and to download a free activity guide, visit mcc.org/school-kit-challenge

Mennonite Women

MCC has the goal of filling 25,000 school kits this year. Our local MW's goal is to fill 500 bags. We are asking the congregation to support our project for MCC again as we did last year. Retailers will soon have many school supplies on hand.

Bags and the list of Items to include will be available in the hallways beginning July 20th. If you are unable to donate all the items for a complete bag, you may choose from the list and take them to the church office. (The metal pencil sharpeners will be purchased by MW, since they are hard to find.) Filled bags should be returned to the church by August 17th when we will have a dedication for them.

News Items from the Church Board

1. This past Tuesday the Church Board received with gratitude a presentation and report from the Clarifying Structures working group. Led by Carlos Romero, CMCers Merlin Becker-Hoover, Liz Gunden, Jonah Hochstetler, Bruce Stahly, and Alicia Maldonado have provided a blueprint for ways to improve CMC's communication on various levels and to clarify lines of responsibility, accountability, and reporting. The report will be available to all CMCers within the next two weeks following a few minor revisions. Please thank Merlin, Liz, Jonah, Bruce, and Alicia for their hard and insightful work on our behalf.
2. Twenty-one CMCers offered responses on the Unasked/Unanswered Questions form, including those gathered from a Seekers Sunday School class discussion. A distilled list of themes reflected in the questions is attached below. The board will begin addressing these questions that it can over the next month.
3. Duane Stoltzfus is completing his third term on the Church Board this month. He offered some reflections from his time on the board with gratitude for the opportunity to serve. He hopes that CMCers will find (and take) more opportunities to have heart-felt connections, however brief, with each other beyond our normal circles of friends.

Rebecca Slough, Board Chair

[Distilled Responses](#)



The MC USA Delegate Assembly installed Marty Lehman as the moderator for the new biennium and provided unanimous affirmation for a slate of new Executive Board members and other nominees, including incoming Moderator-elect Todd Lehman (no relation). Read more here: mennoniteusa.org/news/marty-lehman-as-moderator/

We would like to thank you for your generous donations to the ministries of CMC. To express our appreciation we invite you to enjoy some refreshments in the Fellowship Hall after the 9:30 am worship service.

- Stewardship Committee

Greencroft Curtain Raisers Drama Group is presenting "Where There's a Will There's a Relative" in Jennings Auditorium.

Wed. Aug. 6 @ 7 pm Thurs. Aug 7 @ 2 pm Fri. Aug. 8 @ 7 pm & Sun. Aug. 10 @ 3 pm.

CMCers Dottie Kauffmann, Sandra Hess, Esther Springer and Charlotte Croyle are involved!

The play is free with free-will offering but you need tickets. Tickets can be picked up at the GREENCROFT Community Center welcome desk from Sarah; call Sarah at 574-537-4090 to have tickets sent to you.

Any questions? contact Dottie Kauffmann at 574-537-4875 or dottiejsk@gmail.com.



A MOMENT IN ANABAPTIST HISTORY

"The Anabaptists saw the church as being composed of transformed believers who were committed to Jesus and each other in covenant communities. Both Protestant and Catholic leaders viewed this as a threat to the established church. As a result, they imprisoned and severely persecuted many Anabaptists. More than 4,000 were drowned, beheaded, or burned at the stake as martyrs for their faith." (Palmer Becker, What is an Anabaptist Christian? rev. 2010.)



Children are starving in Gaza, and yet the war goes on!

Consider the following:

1. Pray these prayers of lament: (Click on any of the pics below for a larger view of the prayers.)

LAMENT FOR GAZA AND THE WORLD

Suffering God, we rage and grieve at the horrific loss of life in Gaza.

How is it possible Gaza continues to be violently killed by forced starvation, bombs, drones, and guns?

How can our world allow for this?

How can the United States continue to send weapons to Israel when so many millions of us have demanded this military aid cease?

The slaughter is beyond comprehension and humanity's capacity to endure.

We cry out with our Palestinian family for an end to this genocidal insanity.

We cry out for the killing fields of the so-called Gaza Humanitarian Foundation to be shut down immediately.

We cry out for borders to be opened and aid to flow freely.

We cry out as people of faith and conscience, knowing we are not alone in our rage and grief.

And knowing that you, Suffering God, are raging and grieving with us.

"We need a sky under which kids won't just die" writes Palestinian poet Mohammed Mousa.

May our organizing and agitating not stop until Palestinian children have peaceful skies over them.

May the Suffering God who witnessed to life in the face of death, empower our witness today.

AMEN

2. Join in an evening of "community grief-tending" on Wednesday, August 13 from 7 to 9 p.m. at Prairie Street Mennonite Church in Elkhart. Sponsored by Mennonite Action Michiana and Michiana Voices for Middle East Peace.

Grief In Action:
A Community Grief-Tending Ritual for those Struggling for Palestinian Liberation

August 13
7-9pm
Prairie Street Mennonite Church

Event co-sponsored by: